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From:

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Title:

Detection of Mesoscale Oceanic Phenomena in the Southern California Bight via ERS-1 SAR

Abstract:

ERS-1 SAR images are examined with the intent of identifying mesoscale oceanic phenomena in the Southern California Bight (SCB). The SCB is a region of dynamic physical and biological processes, and as such has long been studied. The ERS-1 SAR images are augmented with other remote sensing data, including S11<-C SAR, AVHRR, ERS-1 ATSR, and Space Shuttle hand-held photography. Analysis of these images has revealed a more dynamic mesoscale field than was previously suspected. Eddies with scales on the order of 20-30 km in diameter have been the most common mesoscale oceanic features evident, but the presence of oceanic fronts and internal waves, as well as atmospheric internal waves, have been documented as well. The mulli-sensor data record will provide insight as to the underlying ocean and meteorological conditions that lead to the prevalence especially of the eddies in this region.